Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-105. (Canceled)

106. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a modulator of MRP-β, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a cell with a candidate modulator of MRP-β;

(b) assaying the level of expression of the MRP-β nucleic acid molecule set forth as SEQ ID No: 1 in said cell, wherein a detectable fluctuation in said level indicates that said candidate modulator is an MRP-β modulator.

107. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a modulator of MRP-β, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a cell with a substrate exported or sequestered by MRP-β, said cell expressing a vector-derived MRP-β polypeptide, the amino acid sequence of which shares at least 75% sequence identity with SEQ ID No: 2, as determined by the ALIGN algorithm (weight residue table = PAM120, gap length penalty = 12, gap penalty = 4);

(b) contacting said cell with a candidate modulator of MRP-β;

(c) assaying for a detectable fluctuation in export or sequestration of said substrate, a detectable fluctuation in which indicates that said candidate is an MRP-β modulator.

108. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a modulator of MRP-β, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a cell with a cytotoxin exported or sequestered by MRP-β, said cell expressing a vector-derived MRP-β polypeptide, the amino acid

sequence of which shares at least 75% sequence identity with SEQ ID No: 2, as determined by the ALIGN algorithm (weight residue table = PAM120, gap length penalty = 12, gap penalty = 4);

(b) contacting said cell with a candidate modulator of MRP-β;

(c) assaying survival of said cell, a detectable fluctuation in which indicates that said candidate is an MRP-β modulator. \

109.-114. (Canceled)

115. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 107 or 108, wherein the amino acid sequence of the vector-derived MRP-β polypeptide shares at least 85% sequence identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No: 2.

116. (Canceled)

117. (Previously Presented) The method of any one of claims 107 and 138-140, wherein the substrate is a cytotoxin.

118. (Previously Presented) The method of any one of claims 107-108 and 138-143, wherein MRP-β expression confers a survival advantage on said cell

119. (Canceled)

120. (Previously Presented) The method of any one of claims 107-108 and 138-143, wherein the cell expresses a cell surface MRP- β polypeptide.

121. (Previously Presented) The method of any one of claims 106-108 and 138-143, wherein the cell is a eukaryotic cell.

122. (Previously Presented) The method of any one of claims 106-108 and 138-143, wherein the cell is a yeast or mammalian cell.

123. (Previously Presented) The method of any one of claims 106-108 and 138-143, wherein the cell is a human cell.

124. (Previously Presented) The method of any one of claims 106-108 and 138-143, wherein the cell is a MCF-7 cell.

125. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 106, wherein assaying the level of MRP-β comprises assaying the amount or rate of production of MRP-β nucleic acid molecule.

126. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~106~~135, wherein assaying the level of MRP-β comprises assaying the amount or rate of production of MRP-β polypeptide is said cell.

127. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 106 or 135, wherein a detectable decrease or cessation of MRP-β expression indicates that the candidate is an inhibitory modulator.

128. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 106 or 135, wherein a detectable increase in MRP-β expression indicates that the candidate is a stimulatory modulator.

129. (Previously Presented) The method of any one of claims 106-108 and 138-143, wherein the candidate modulator is contacted with the cell prior to, concomitantly with, or following exposure to the substrate.

130. (Previously Presented)The method of claim 107, wherein a detectable decrease in export or sequestration of the substrate indicates that the candidate is an inhibitory modulator.

131. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 108, wherein a detectable decrease in survival indicates that the candidate is an inhibitory modulator.

132. (Previously Presented) The method of any one of claims 106-108, wherein the candidate modulator is selected from the group consisting of a natural metabolite, a synthetic chemical, a synthetic metabolite, a toxin, an antibiotics, an element of a combinatorial chemistry library, an element of a nucleotide library, an element of a peptide library, a naturally sourced chemical, a naturally sourced cell secretion product, a cell lysate,

133. (Previously Presented) The method of any one of claims 106-108, wherein the candidate modulator is a small molecule.

134. (Canceled)

135. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a modulator of MRP-β, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a cell with a candidate modulator;

(b) assaying the level of expression of the MRP-β polypeptide set forth as SEQ ID No: 2 in said cell, wherein a detectable fluctuation in said level indicates that said candidate modulator is an MRP-β modulator.

136. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 107 or 108, wherein the amino acid sequence of the vector-derived MRP-β polypeptide shares at least 95% sequence identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No: 2.

137. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 107 or 108, wherein the amino acid sequence of the vector-derived MRP-β polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No: 2.

138. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a modulator of MRP-β, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a cell with a substrate exported or sequestered by MRP-β, said cell expressing a vector-derived MRP-β polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes under conditions of hybridization in 0.5M $NaHPO_4$ at 65°C followed by washing in 0.1xSSC at 68°C to a complement of the nucleic acid molecule having the sequence of SEQ ID No: 1;

(b) contacting said cell with a candidate modulator of MRP-β;

(c) assaying for a detectable fluctuation in export or sequestration of said substrate, a detectable fluctuation in which indicates that said candidate is an MRP-β modulator.

139. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a modulator of MRP-β, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a cell with a substrate exported or sequestered by MRP-β, said cell expressing a vector-derived MRP-β polypeptide encoded the nucleic acid molecule having the sequence of SEQ ID No: 1;

(b) contacting said cell with a candidate modulator of MRP-β;

(c) assaying for a detectable fluctuation in export or sequestration of said substrate, a detectable fluctuation in which indicates that said candidate is an MRP-β modulator.

140. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a modulator of MRP-β, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a cell with a substrate exported or sequestered by MRP-β, said cell expressing a vector-derived MRP-β polypeptide by the DNA insert of the plasmid deposited as ATCC Deposit No. 94809;

(b) contacting said cell with a candidate modulator of MRP-β;

(c) assaying for a detectable fluctuation in export or sequestration of said substrate, a detectable fluctuation in which indicates that said candidate is an MRP-β modulator.

141. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a modulator of MRP-β, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a cell with a cytotoxin exported or sequestered by MRP-β, said cell expressing a vector-derived MRP-β polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes under conditions of hybridization in 0.5M $NaHPO_4$ at 65°C followed by washing in 0.1xSSC at 68°C to a complement of the nucleic acid molecule having the sequence of SEQ ID No: 1;

(b) contacting said cell with a candidate modulator of MRP-β;

(c) assaying survival of said cell, a detectable fluctuation in which indicates that said candidate is an MRP-β modulator.

142. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a modulator of MRP-β, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a cell with a cytotoxin exported or sequestered by MRP-β, said cell expressing a vector-derived MRP-β polypeptide encoded the nucleic acid molecule having the sequence of SEQ ID No: 1;

(b) contacting said cell with a candidate modulator of MRP-β;

(c) assaying survival of said cell, a detectable fluctuation in which indicates that said candidate is an MRP-β modulator.

143. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a modulator of MRP-β, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a cell with a cytotoxin exported or sequestered by MRP-β, said cell expressing a vector-derived MRP-β polypeptide by the DNA insert of the plasmid deposited as ATCC Deposit No. 94809;

(b) contacting said cell with a candidate modulator of MRP-β;

(c) assaying survival of said cell, a detectable fluctuation in which indicates that said candidate is an MRP-β modulator.